

American Trade Agreement and the GATT implementing legislation. He also worked to implement meaningful Missouri River policy that would benefit Missouri's agriculture producers, including work to provide a better levee system and work to ensure the Missouri River Master Manual fully represents the interest of the Show Me State.

In 1996, Bob was appointed Chief Administrative Officer and Corporate Secretary for the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation and Affiliated Companies. In addition to his administrative duties, he has continued to serve as an active lobbyist for the farm organization on state and national issues.

Due to his exceptional service to the Missouri Farm Bureau and agricultural programs, Bob has been singled out as a leader in agriculture. He was chosen to participate in the European Community's visitors program, where he spent three weeks studying agricultural policy in Europe. He was also awarded a partnership award by the USDA soil and water conservation programs in Missouri.

As Bob Hitzhusen prepares to spend more time with his family, his wife Verlee and his sons Paul and Mark, I know the members of the House will join me in expressing appreciation for his dedication to Missouri's agriculture community and to the Missouri Farm Bureau.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERTA H. MARTINEZ, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2003

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our Nation's most distinguished women during the month of March. It is my great honor to recognize extraordinary women who are making a difference in my district.

I stand today, to recognize an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Ms. Roberta H. Martinez. Ms. Martinez's passion for community volunteerism, especially on behalf of Latino-American history and culture, has made the City of Pasadena a better place to live.

Ms. Martinez earned her BA in music, her MA in music history and is a practicing musician. Currently she is narrator and vocalist for the Aztec Stories Project, scheduled to play at the Ford Theater in Los Angeles in the fall of this year. Besides owning her own production company, she is a guest lecturer, historian, and an elementary and middle school substitute teacher. She and her husband, James Grimes, reside in Pasadena, and have two children, Kate and Matthew.

Roberta is host/producer of an award-winning cable access television show—Casa Martinez—musica y mas in Pasadena. As a producer, she has worked on many annual projects including the Adelante Mujer Latina conference, Latino Fest, and the Cinco de Mayo celebration. In addition, she is the founder and current Chair of the Latino History Parade and Jamaica. One of the projects Roberta is most proud of is the history project "The Past Lives Vividly in the Present: a his-

tory of the Latino Community in Pasadena" that she researched and produced.

Roberta serves on numerous boards and committees, including the Pasadena Historical Museum, the San Gabriel Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Pasadena Latino Forum, Latino Heritage Association, Leadership Pasadena and the Zonta Club. In addition, she assists the City of Pasadena by participating on the Arts Commission, the Pasadena Community Access Corporation, and the Northwest School Site Steering Committee. In 2002, Roberta received the Pasadena YWCA's Woman of Excellence in the Arts Award.

The time and energy she gives to our community is truly remarkable, and the City of Pasadena has benefited greatly from her dedicated service.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Roberta H. Martinez. The entire community joins me in thanking Roberta Martinez for her continued efforts to making the 29th Congressional District a better place in which to live.

### ORGAN DONATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

### HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 399, the Organ Donation Improvement Act of 2003. Simply stated, this bill will promote organ donation by removing existing barriers to living organ donation and educating the public.

Right now there is simply not enough organs to meet the needs of patients waiting for them on the transplant lists. The challenge before us is to maximize the number of available organs and to maximize the recovery of organs available for donation. When an organ becomes available for transplant, we must spare no resource to ensure that it is delivered to a patient in need and this bill is a work towards reaching that goal.

Behind every number is a person. Some are waiting for a life-saving or life-enhancing transplant. Others celebrate the gift of life they have received.

The mission of this bill is to change the numbers, by increasing the number of organ and tissue donors, ultimately saving more lives. It is my hope that this outreach will educate the public about organ and tissue donation, correct misconceptions about donation, and create a greater willingness to donate.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill and a step in the right direction. As a long time advocate for organ donation, I urge support for this bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

### ELIZABETH SMART FOUND ALIVE

### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, when it was reported yesterday afternoon that Elizabeth

Smart was found alive and well, we all breathed a collective sigh of relief, thankful to God that, in this all too rare instance, there was a happy ending.

For months, we prayed in earnest for Elizabeth's safety and for the Smart family, who courageously have crusaded for their daughter despite long odds, refusing to give up their search. Driven by faith, hope and love, their tenacity never wavered. Keeping the case alive, they created invaluable public awareness that eventually resulted in her safe retrieval. In particular, I would like to send my fondest wishes to my friend, Joy Bradford, Elizabeth's aunt who along with the Smarts refused to give up looking for her niece.

I would also like to recognize the Salt Lake City community, who became an extended family for the Smarts, never faltering in support, and never relenting in a search for one of their own. Gratitude must also be extended to the four Sandy police officers that confronted Elizabeth's abductors and the people who alerted them. They are true heroes.

It is difficult to express in words how relieved and overjoyed we all are that Elizabeth is alive and back in the arms of her loving family. Our prayers have been answered. Miracles do indeed happen.

### CRISIS IN HEALTHCARE

### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, America faces a crisis in health care. Health care costs continue to rise while physicians and patients struggle under the control of managed-care "gatekeepers." Obviously, fundamental health care reform should be one of Congress' top priorities.

Unfortunately, most health care "reform" proposals either make marginal changes or exacerbate the problem. This is because they fail to address the root of the problem with health care, which is that government policies encourage excessive reliance on third-party payers. The excessive reliance on third-party payers removes all incentive from individual patients to concern themselves with health care costs. Laws and policies promoting Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) resulted from a desperate attempt to control spiraling costs. However, instead of promoting an efficient health care system, HMOs further took control over health care away from the individual patient and physician.

Returning control over health care to the individual is the key to true health care reform. This is why today I am introducing the Comprehensive Health Care Reform Act. This legislation puts control of health care back into the hands of the individual through tax credits, tax deductions, Medical Savings Accounts, and Flexible Savings Accounts. Specifically, the Comprehensive Health Care Reform Act:

A. Provides all Americans with a tax credit for 100% of health care expenses. The tax credit is fully refundable against both income and payroll taxes.

B. Allows individuals to roll over unused amounts in cafeteria plans and Flexible Savings Accounts (FSA).

C. Makes every American eligible for an Archer Medical Savings Account (MSA) and